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A.—The Government cancelled the elections of the Presidents of the Tadepallegudem and Tanuku Taluk Boards said to have been held on 2nd June 1927 and 30th May 1927, respectively, after the postponement of the meetings summoned on these dates by the temporary presidents. The reason for the cancellation was that the elections held under such circumstances were in the opinion of the Government not valid.

Nominations to the Bhimavaram, Ellore and Narsapur Taluk Boards.

* 732 Q.—Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state why three more members were nominated on the 28th June 1927 to the Bhimavaram Taluk Board, six more to the Ellore Taluk Board and four more to the Narsapur Taluk Board when the first nominations to these reconstituted boards were made on the 3rd May 1927?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to the answer given to clause (*f*) of question No. 301 on 27th August 1927.

Nominations to the Tanuku Taluk Board.

* 733 Q.—Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) why five more members were nominated to the Tadepallegudem Taluk Board on the 28th June and nine more to the Tanuku Taluk Board;

(*b*) by whom these names were recommended and how the gentlemen were found fit for nominations to these boards;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that elections to presidentships of these two boards were alleged to have taken place before these nominations were made; and

(*d*) whether it is with a view to facilitate the chances of particular candidates for the presidential election to be held again that these nominations were made?

A.—(*a*) The hon. Member is referred to the answer given to clause (*f*) of question No. 301 on 27th August 1927.

(*b*) The nominations were by the President, District Board, West Godavari. The Government have no information of the tests of fitness which he applied.

(*c*) Yes.

(*d*) No.

Enquiry into the alleged interest of some district board members in subsisting contracts of the board.

* 734 Q.—Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether an enquiry has been held with reference to the alleged interest of certain members of the Salem District Board in subsisting contracts of the board; and

(*b*) whether the Government will be pleased to lay on the table of the House the report of the Inspector of local bodies?

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A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The Government are not prepared to place the Inspector's report on the table of the House.

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know, Sir, from the hon. the Minister for Local Self Government if similar complaints have been received from any other places."

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I cannot answer that question."

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—" With reference to the answer to clause (*b*), may I know whether the report is favourable to or against the President of the District Board ?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" The report is confidential and I am not prepared to give what is contained in the report."

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—" In view of the fact that the district board election was postponed by an order of the Government on account of this complaint,—if it is not confidential—will the hon. the Minister be pleased to say whether the report of the Inspector is favourable or unfavourable ?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I have stated that I am not prepared to give an answer."

Rao Bahadur K. SITARAMA REDDIYAR :—" Are the Government aware that there is a provision in the Local Boards Act itself that it is the concern of the local board primarily and not of the Government to question the matter in a court of law ?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" The Government are as well aware of that fact as the hon. Member."

Policy of nominations to local bodies.

*735 *Q.*—Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) why Rao Bahadur T. M. Narasimhacharlu was renominated as a member of the District Board of Cuddapah and why Mr. V. T. Srinivasa Ayyangar was renominated as a member of the Municipal Council of Vellore ; and

(*b*) whether it is a fact that the Government propose to follow as a principle the nomination to local bodies of outgoing chairmen of municipal councils and presidents of local boards ?

A.—(*a*) M.R.Ry. Rao Bahadur T. M. Narasimhacharlu was reappointed as a member of the Cuddapah District Board chiefly in order that the Board might have the advantage of his experience.

No person of the name of V. T. Srinivasa Ayyangar was reappointed to the Vellore Municipal Council.

(*b*) The Government will consider each case on its merits.

(736 *Q.*—Please see page 262 infra).